

HEALTH
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1957

ANNUAL REPORT

AND

VITAL STATISTICS

OF THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF KNUTSFORD



BY

D. LONGBOTTOM,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health for

the Urban District of Knutsford.

KNUTSFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillors Dr. J. K. Walley, Chairman.
J. W. Gledhill, J.P. Chairman
of the Council.

E. Anthistle
R. Brewster.
Mrs. H. C. Chorlton.
R. H. Davis.
F. Jennings.
T. S. Meachin.
Mrs. E. W. Nicol.
J. H. Oakes.
A. A. Seaton.
W. Shaw.

E. MORLEY

Clerk of the Council.

Officers of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health	-	Dr. D. Longbottom M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health	-	Geo. R. Butler,
Inspector & Cleansing		M.A.P.H.I.
Superintendent		
Additional Public Health	-	P. Darbyshire
Inspector		M.A.P.H.I.

KNUTSFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Knutsford.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Knutsford Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year
1957.

The population of Knutsford continues to rise and is now
estimated at 7,720. The growth has averaged almost 200 per year
since 1945 and there is every indication that this trend will continue,
at least over the next few years.

Some change is evident in the vital statistics - the
number of deaths (175) is lower and the number of births higher (132)
when compared with the 1956 figures of 211 and 96. The infant mortality
remains low, there being only three deaths under the age of twelve months.

Good progress has again been made in slum clearance, 20 houses being
demolished during the year and the tenants rehoused. Action has already
been commenced in respect of the remaining 29 houses scheduled in the
Council's Five Year Programme.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking members
of the Health Committee for the interest they have shown in the work of
the Department and to thank Mr. Butler (Chief Public Health Inspector)
and his staff for the work they have done and the help they have given me
at all times.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

DONALD LONGBOTTOM,

Medical Officer of Health.

PART 1.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District	2,485 acres.
Average Height above sea level	210 feet.
Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population	7,720.
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1957) per rate book	2,474.
Rateable Value	£87,921.
Sum represented by a penny rate	£363.

VITAL STATISTICS

	1957	1956
Crude Birth rate per 1,000 population	17.1	12.8
Comparability factor	1.0	1.0
Standardised Birth Rate	17.1	12.8
General Birth Rate (England & Wales)	16.1	15.7
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	22.7	28.2
Comparability factor	0.49	0.4
Standardised Death Rate	11.1	11.3
General Death Rate (England & Wales)	11.5	11.7
Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth	0	0
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	3	2
Deaths from Cancer	18	22
Deaths from Tuberculosis	3	1
Total Number of deaths from all causes	175	211

The population figures given are for home population and the birth and death rates are based on this figure. The standardised rates are arrived at after allowing for the age and sex distribution of the population, giving a more fair comparison with those of other areas.

The death rate comparability factor is adjusted specifically to take account of the presence of any residential institution in each area. This takes into account the deaths occurring in Cranford Lodge Hospital and thus gives a better comparison with the rate for the rest of the country.

PART II TABLES

TABLE I

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>	<u>Totals</u>	<u>1956</u>
Males	64	-	64	48
Females	64	4	68	48
	128	4	132	96

TABLE II

STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>	<u>Totals</u>	<u>1956</u>
Males	2	-	2	5
Females	-	-	-	1
	2	-	2	6

TABLE III

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

	<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>	<u>Totals</u>	<u>1956</u>
Males	1	-	1	2
Females	2	-	2	-
	3	-	3	-

TABLE IV

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE

	<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>	<u>Totals</u>	<u>1956</u>
Males	1	-	1	2
Females	1	-	1	-
	2	-	2	2

The causes of death of the 2 infants under 4 weeks of age were:-

- (1) Cerebral Haemorrhage
- (2) Prematurity - placenta praevia

These deaths were concerned with congenital causes which in the present state of medical knowledge are not preventable.

TABLE V.

<u>Notifiable Disease</u>	<u>Number of Cases Notified 1957.</u>
Scarlet Fever	1
Whooping Cough	7
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	0
Measles (excluding Rubella)	100
Acute Pneumonia (Primary of Influenzal)	0
Meningococcal Infection	0
Acute Poliomyelitis -	
Paralytic	0
Non-Paralytic	0
Acute Encephalitis -	
Infective	0
Post Infectious	0
Dysentery	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0
Smallpox	0
Paratyphoid Fevers	0
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (Exc. Paratyphoid)	0
Food Poisoning (Exc. dysentery typhoid and paratyphoid Fevers)	1
Tuberculosis -	
Respiratory	1
Other	0
Erysipelas	0
	<u>110</u>
Total	110
1957	93

The district was remarkably free from infectious disease with the exception of the measles cases. These were a continuation of the measles epidemic which commenced at the end of the previous year.

TABLE VI

Number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified during
the year ended 31st December, 1957

1

TABLE VII

Deaths from Tuberculosis registered
during the year ended 31st December, 1957.

3

TABLE VIII

DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1957 AND CAUSES

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
All Causes (Certified 175) (Uncertified 0)			
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	1	2
Tuberculosis, other	0	1	1
Syphilitic Disease	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infections	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Other Infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	1	6
Malignant neoplasm, lungs bronchus	2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	1	1
Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	4	6
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0	0	0
Diabetes	0	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	14	47	61
Coronary disease, angina	9	11	20
Hypertension with heart disease	1	0	1
Other heart disease	14	23	37
Other circulatory disease	0	2	2
Influenza	2	4	6
Pneumonia	2	2	4
Bronchitis	0	1	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	0	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	0	0
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	0	0
Nephritis and nephrosis	0	0	0
Hyper-plasia of prostate	2	0	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
Congenital malformations	0	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	8	11
Motor vehicle accidents	2	0	2
All other accidents	0	3	3
Suicide	0	0	0
Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
	<u>59</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>175</u>
Total			
1956 Total	<u>90</u>	<u>121</u>	<u>211</u>

The majority of deaths are those associated with old age, that is the failing of the cardio vascular system, and with cancer in its various forms.

The deaths in the infectious disease groups are as follows:-

Tuberculosis	3
Pneumonia	4
Influenza	6

TABLE IX
COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Population</u>	<u>Total Births</u>	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year</u>
1911	5983	113	22.0	63	12.3	9
1915	5378	94	19.1	62	12.3	6
1920	5035	107	21.2	65	12.9	7
1925	5499	69	12.5	45	8.3	4
1930	5846	84	14.2	50	8.5	5
1935	5681	61	10.7	58	10.2	2
1940	6306	77	12.2	80	12.7	3
1945	5620	95	16.9	74	13.2	6
1950	6357	90	14.2	67	10.5	0
1951	6576	100	15.2	90	13.7	0
1952	6530	90	13.8	124	19.0	1
1953	6805	105	15.4	157	11.0	0
1954	7090	101	15.0	233	13.3	2
1955	7200	98	14.4	240	10.8	3
1956	7470	96	12.8	211	11.3	2
1957	7720	132	17.1	175	11.1	3

From 1951 onwards the total deaths include those of non-Knutsford residents occurring in Cranford Lodge Hospital for chronic sick.

From 1953 onwards the death rate is that estimated for Knutsford residents only (i.e. excluding deaths of non-Knutsford residents in Cranford Lodge Hospital).

National Health Act Services and Services
provided by the Cheshire County Council

A. Services provided in accordance with the requirements
of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

1. Hospital Services

Controlling Body - Manchester Regional Hospital Board.
Local Hospitals - Administered by North West and Mid-Cheshire
Hospital Management Committee.
Secretary - Mr. M. Owen, Administrative Offices,
Altrincham Maternity Home, Sinderland
Road, Altrincham.

NOTE - The Knutsford Council have no representative serving
on these Bodies at the present time.

2. Hospitals serving this area:

General Acute Cases - Cottage Hospital, Knutsford.
Altrincham General Hospital.
General Chronic Cases - Cranford Lodge, Knutsford.
Maternity Hospitals - Cranford Lodge, Knutsford - 10 beds.
Ear, Nose and Throat - St. Anne's Home, Woodville Road, Altrincham.

A large number of cases from Knutsford are also treated
in Manchester Hospitals and Macclesfield.

3. General Practitioner and General Dental Services

Controlling Body - National Health Service Executive Council
for Cheshire.
Clerk - Mr. F. Hayter, 28, Nicholas Street, Chester.

NOTE - The Knutsford Council have no representative on this Body.

4. Services of Local Health Authority - Cheshire County Council

1. Ambulance Service)	
2. Immunisation and Vaccination)	Altrincham Divisional
3. Care and after care)	Health Committee
4. Home Help Service)	
5. Maternity and Child Welfare)	
6. Domiciliary Midwifery and)	
District Nursing)	
7. Dental Service - Expectant)	County Council
and Nursing Mothers and Pre)	Health Committee.
School Children)	
8. Mental Health Service - Duly)	
Authorised Officer for)	
Mental Health - Mr. Dixon,)	
18, Stanley Road, Knutsford)	

The Divisional Health Committee area covers Hale U.D.C., Bowdon U.D.C.,
Altrincham M.B., Knutsford U.D.C. and Bucklow R.D.C. and includes
Members of these Authorities, Members of the County Council and
co-opted members.

Divisional Medical Officer and District - Dr. D. Longbottom, Mountlands,
M.O.H. for the above districts The Mount, Altrincham.

B. Other Services by other Committees of Cheshire County Council

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Education Committee | - School Health Services, including School dental Service. |
| 2. Welfare Committee | - Old persons care and attention, homeless, handicapped persons, provision for residential accommodation - County Welfare Officer - Mr. Evans, Hough Green, Chester. |
| 3. Children's Committee | - Provides for the care of deprived children i.e. children not under parental care. |
| Children's Officer for this area | - Mr. J. Blades, The County Offices, Bexton Road, Knutsford. |

C. Services available in Knutsford

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic | - County Offices, Bexton Road, Knutsford. Every Wednesday at 2 - 4 p.m. |
| 2. Immunisation and Vaccination | - Last Thursday in each month at 10.0. a.m. - 11.0. a.m. |
| 3. <u>School Clinic - County Offices, Bexton Road, Knutsford.</u> | |
| (a) Minor Ailments Clinic | - Wednesday mornings - 9 - 12 a.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday - 9 - 10 a.m. as required. |
| (b) Doctors Session | - 2nd and 4th Wednesday mornings in the month. |
| (c) Dental Clinic | - Each Tuesday morning and afternoon. |
| (d) Eye Clinic | - 3rd Thursday afternoon each month, by appointment. |
| (e) Hearing Clinic | - Alternate Friday mornings by appointment. |
| 4. Health Visitor | - Nurse Dawson, County Offices, Bexton Road, Knutsford. |
| 5. District Nurses and Midwives | - Nurse Cadogan, Mere Heath Lane, Mere.
Nurse Tierney, 1 Westfield Drive, Knutsford. |
| 6. Relief District Nurses & Midwives | - Nurse Buckley, 7 Ascol Drive, Plumley, Nr. Knutsford.
Nurse Roome, 26 Thorneyholme Drive, Knutsford. |
| 7. Ambulance Station | - Town Hall, Altrincham - Altrincham 3256 |

All enquiries in connection with the above services should be made to: Dr. D. Longbottom, Divisional Medical Officer, Mountlands, The Mount, Altrincham. Tel. Altrincham 1733.

Annual Report of the Public Health
Inspector for the Year ending
31st December, 1957.

WATER SUPPLY

The Statutory Undertaking for the supply of water to the Urban District is the Knutsford Light and Water Company who buy water in bulk from Manchester Corporation Waterworks.

I am indebted to the Engineer and Manager of the Manchester Corporation Waterworks Department for the following information:-

THIRLMERE SUPPLY

January to December, 1957.

TYPICAL CHEMICAL ANALYSES.

Samples taken from house taps.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>March 13</u>	<u>Sept. 11</u>
<u>LAB. NO.</u>	<u>5301</u>	<u>5621</u>
pH value	7.0	7.1
Colour as ppm platinum	8	11
Turbidity ppm silica scale	1.5	0.7
Odour or taste. Cold or Hot	nil	nil
	<u>Parts per Million</u>	
Total solids dried at 180°C.	43	41
Free acidity as CO ₂	2	2
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	14	15
Total hardness as CaCO ₃	20	19
Chlorides as Cl ₂	10	7
Nitrates as N ₂	0.15	0.02
Nitrites as N ₂	0.009	0.01
Ammoniacal nitrogen as N ₂	0.01	0.01
Albuminoid nitrogen as N ₂	0.01	0.02
Oxygen absorbed test, 4 hours at 27° C.	0.54	0.46
Silica as SiO ₂	2.5	3
Iron as Fe	0.11	0.08
Manganese as Mn	nil	0.03

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Eighty nine (89) samples were taken on this particular supply with the following results:

Samples free from coliform bacteria	83
Samples with coliform bacteria	6
The samples with coliform bacteria present were as follows:	89

Date	Coliform bacteria found per 100 mls of water.			
	Non-			
	Faecal	faecal	Total	
Feb. 27	0	1	1	(1 other sample taken was coli-free).
May. 29	0	1	1	(1 other sample taken was coli-free).
July 17	0	3	3	
Sep. 25	1	1	2	
Oct. 2	0	1	1	
Oct. 30	0	1	1	(1 other sample taken was coli-free).

The coliform bacteria found would be derived from "aftergrowths" in deposits in mains. The finding of 1 faecal coli per 100 mls of water in one sample has no significance whatsoever.

The water supply has been of excellent chemical and bacteriological quality throughout the year."

Three samples of water were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination in the early part of the year and in all cases the results were satisfactory. These were taken from the supply mains in the Parkfield and Legh Road area.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Throughout the year a weekly collection of house refuse was maintained with a more frequent collection from the larger catering establishments. One 11 cu. yd. S. & D. Freighter is used full time and a 9 cu. yd. part-time making for a flexible service, which can be readily increased to cater for the further development which is taking place. For the first time, the Department was closed down for a week during August when all the workmen took a week of their annual holidays. This arrangement proved to be most satisfactory since it avoided running the vehicles for a period with depleted crews and enabled arrears of maintenance to be made up.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping and at the beginning of the year a supply of water and toilet facilities were provided for the attendant of the Shaw Heath Tip. In March tipping was commenced on the Moor which was formerly the old tip and the area of land will be reclaimed as a recreation ground. Proprietary insecticides were used for the control of flies and during the year no complaints were received in respect of either tip.

SALVAGE

A separate collection of waste paper has been maintained from business premises and throughout the year the price for baled waste paper has remained constant at £7. 10s. Od. per ton. In September, the hand baler was replaced with an electric press which is being purchased out of revenue, thus making for greater efficiency.

The following table shows the amount and value of waste paper disposed of during the year, compared with the previous year.

	<u>Waste Paper</u>					
	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Value</u>				
	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwt.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>	<u>£.</u>	<u>s.</u>	<u>d.</u>
1957	52	7	2	392.	14.	3.
1956	49	15	3	324.	10.	8.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAW AND REGULATION

No action was necessary under the above heading during the year under review.

SEWERAGE & SERAGE DISPOSAL

All the sewerage from the Urban District, with the exception of a small area east of King Street, which is pumped through a rising main into the King Street sewer, is carried by gravitating sewers to the disposal works situated on the Bank of the Birkin Brook on the north east boundary of the town. All samples of effluent taken by the Mersey River Board during the year were classed as satisfactory.

SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL (Contd)

Three major sewer extensions, have been carried out during the year, two to cater for the proposed private development in the Sugar Pit Lane and Shaw Heath Area and one to cater for the first stage of Manchester Corporation's development at Shaw Heath.

In view of the amount of development which is proposed to take place, consideration will have to be given in the near future to sewage disposal as a whole.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council has one part-time operator for this work who has been trained in the methods recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Infestations at domestic premises continue to be treated free of charge and in the case of business premises the cost of treatment is recovered from the persons responsible. In the case of the Council's tip and Sewage Disposal Works, frequent visits are made and treatments carried out when necessary.

The following table gives details of infestations and treatments carried out during the year.

	Local Authority	Private	Business and other	Totals of Cols.1.2.3.	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in Local Authy's District	8	2474	344	2826	11
2. Properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	0	42	8	50	-
(b) Survey under the Act	8	68	16	92	3
(c) Otherwise	-	41	34	75	3
3. Properties found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats (Major & Minor)	3	43	7	53	1
(b) Mice (Major & Minor)	1	7	3	11	-
4. Infested Properties treated by the L.A.	4	50	10	64	-

A 10% test of the sewers was carried out in November with a total of 36 manholes baited. Infestation was observed in 8. As in previous years the infestation was confined to the sewers in the north part of the town.

The Council received the 50% grant from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for the approved expenditure in regard to rodent control.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There has been no change in the slaughtering position in the town. Three slaughterhouses which are licenced continue to operate in a satisfactory manner. The majority of the slaughtering takes place at weekends and all the meat produced is of a high quality.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS (Contd)

The number of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned is shown on the Table below, but in addition to this the following foodstuffs were condemned as being unfit for human consumption.

Hind quarter beef	87 lbs.	Shoulder steak	65 lbs.
Veal loaf	31 tins.	Cooked ham	6 tins.
Tongues	4 tins.	Pork	1 tin.
Minced Beef loaf	1 tin.	Corned Beef	1 tin.
Cheese	1 tin.	Frozen Egg	1 tin.
Tomatoes	1 tin.	Pears	1 tin.
Apricots	1 tin.	Fruit Salad	1 tin.
Plums	1 tin.	Pineapples	2 tins.

TABLE SHOWING NUMBER OF CARCASSES & OFFAL INSPECTED.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	393	0	2	1563	289	0
Number inspected	393	0	2	1563	289	0
Diseases except T.B. & cysticercci Carcasses condemned	0	0	0	0	2	0
Carcasses part or organ condemned	42	0	0	18	4	0
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. & cysticercci	10.7%	0	0	1.1%	2.1%	0
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	2	0	0	0	0	0
Carcasses part or organ condemned	11	0	0	0	3	0
Percentage of number inspected affected with T.B.	3.3	0	0	0	1.0	0
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcasses some part or organ condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0

The total weight of unfit meat was approximately 2,780 lbs.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

Two samples of school milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination and in each case the result was satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 - SAMPLING

The Cheshire County Council are the authority for the taking of samples of food stuffs under the above Act, and I am indebted to Mr. Stacey Hallard, Chief Weights and Measures Inspector to the Cheshire County Council for the following information.

<u>Samples Taken</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number of Non-Standard Samples</u>
Cod Liver Oil	1	0
Dripping	1	0
Flour (plain)	1	0
Ice Cream	1	0
Milk(Fresh)	18	1
Pineapple Juice	1	0
Sausage (pork)	1	0
Vitamin and Mineral Capsules	1	0
Whisky	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>26</u>	<u>1</u>

"The sample of milk shown as non-standard was deficient in solids-not-fat to the extent of 2.3 per cent but no action was taken as the Analyst certified the sample to be abnormal milk and thus, it was genuine."

SMOKE ABATEMENT

There are four factory chimneys in the area, none of which have given rise to nuisance during the year under review.

Certain provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956, came into force at the beginning of the year and in April the Council adopted the Model Bye-law requiring approved appliances to be provided in new buildings.

HOUSING - SLUM CLEARANCE

A further 21 houses have been demolished during the year bringing the total number already demolished under the Council's Five Year Plan to 61.

The total number of houses which it was proposed to deal with during the Five years is 90 and the position at the end of the year is as follows:-

Houses Demolished	61
Houses Closed	7
Undertakings not to relet held	18
Properties re-conditioned	<u>6</u>
	<u>92</u>

This means that the Programme is virtually complete, as the houses where Undertakings are held, will be demolished or closed when they are vacated. In all cases, these houses have been treated as individual unfit houses in accordance with Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

During the routine inspections of the district, housing defects were found which resulted in the service of 16 Informal and 2 Statutory Notices. In all cases the works specified in the notices were carried out.

FACTORIES ACT 1937

The following table shows the number of inspections made and action taken during the year:-

	Number on Register	N U M B E R O F		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	2	0	0
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	27	18	0	0
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	0	0	0	0

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which pro- secution was made
	Found	Referred			
		Remedied	To H.M. Inspec- tor	By H.M. Inspect- or	
Want of cleanliness	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation	0	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	0	1	0
(c) Not separate for sexes	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	1	1	0	1	0

OUTWORKERS

One resident of Knutsford undertaking homework has been notified during the year and none of the firms in the District have workers who undertake homework.

CERTIFICATES OF MEANS OF ESCAPE IN CASE OF FIRE

Two certificates of means of escape in case of fire, in accordance with Section 37 of the Act, were issued during the year. One of these was in respect of a new factory and the other for an existing factory. In both cases the inspections were carried out in co-operation with the Fire Prevention Officer of the Cheshire County Fire Service.

FOOD PREMISES

In the district there are 84 food premises which may be classified as follows:-

<u>Shops</u>	
General Grocers	16.
Butchers	10.
Green Grocers	8.
Fish Friers	3.
Fishmongers	<u>3.</u>
<u>Canteens</u>	
Factory	5.
Institutions	4.
Schools	6.
<u>Caterers</u>	
Licenced Premises	20.
Caterers	9.

Improvements have been carried out at 16 premises and on the whole the standard of hygiene is good. In addition, an inspection of the school kitchens controlled by the County Council has been made in company with the County Representatives, with a view to bringing these up to the standard required by the Food Hygiene Regulations, when all the necessary items were agreed.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS 1933 - 54

10 Licences to slaughter as required by the above Acts were issued, one of which was an initial licence, the others being renewals.

MILK SUPPLIES

Other than dairies at farms which are controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture, and Fisheries, there are five dairies in the area, all of which obtain their milk from milk already bottled from the larger dairy concerns.

DESIGNATED MILK

Licences were issued during the year for the sale of designated milk, as follows:

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Dealers</u>	<u>Supplementary</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Pasteurised	5	1	6
Tuberculin Tested	5	1	6
Sterilised	5	1	6
	<u>15</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>18</u>

NEW HOUSES

During 1957 the total number of new houses completed was 75, with a further 82 under construction, made up as follows:-

	<u>Completed</u>	<u>Under Construction</u>
Private Houses	65	54
Council Houses	<u>10</u>	<u>28</u>
	<u>75</u>	<u>82</u>

The number of new houses shows a decrease compared with the previous years total of 140. At the end of the year the number of Council owned dwellings was 740.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

11 applications for improvement grants were received of which 7 were approved; the remainder were refused for the following reasons:-

- (1) Type of work proposed not eligible for grant.
- (2) Improvements already carried out.
- (3) Premises unsuitable.
- (4) Value of work did not reach the minimum figure.

The total amount approved for grant was £1,218.

RENT ACT, 1957

Although numerous enquiries concerning the above Act were dealt with only 3 Certificates of Disrepair were issued, whilst in three other cases Statutory Undertakings were received from the owners to carry out the work within the prescribed period.

One Certificate of Disrepair issued under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 is still in force.

STAFF

In conclusion, I would like to record my appreciation of the valuable work carried out by your additional Public Health Inspector, Mr. P. Darbyshire, both during the year under review and in the compilation of this report. He has devoted the whole of his time to Public Health Administration, whilst I had to undertake other duties, and he has carried out all duties entrusted to him with marked ability, particularly the inspection of meat and other foods. I am grateful to him for his co-operation and loyalty on all occasions; and we both in turn thank the Medical Officer of Health for his encouragement and help which is so willingly given.

Your obedient servant,

GEO. R. BUTLER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

All the industrial furnaces which caused offence in the past have now been dealt with. The only complaint received during the year of atmospheric pollution concerned an improvised incinerator at one of the Hospitals. This was brought to the notice of the responsible Authority when a proprietary incinerator was installed and connected to the flue of one of the hospital blocks. No further complaints have been received from this source.

HOUSING - SLUM CLEARANCE

During the year under review, a total of 41 of the 90 houses included in the Council's five year plan have been demolished. Closing orders have been made in three cases and a further six undertakings not to re-let upon the expiration of the present tenancies have been obtained. In all cases these were dealt with as individual unfit houses in accordance with Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

As a result of routine inspections of the district, housing defects were found which resulted in the serving of 15 Informal Notices and thirteen Statutory Notices. In all cases, the necessary works specified in the notices were carried out.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Five Improvement Grants were made during the year, the total amount being £1,336; one of the applications, however, was subsequently withdrawn.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

Although a number of enquiries were received, only one Certificate of Disrepair was issued during the year.

NEW HOUSES

The total number of new houses completed during 1956 showed a considerable increase and was 140 compared with 72 for the previous year; 54 of these were for private occupation and 86 were Council houses, these being the bulk of the 110 on the Shaw Heath Farm Estate.

STAFF

In conclusion, I would like to record my appreciation of the valuable work carried out by your additional Public Health Inspector, Mr. P. Darbyshire, both during the year under review and in the compilation of this report. He has devoted the whole of his time to Public Health Administration, whilst I have had to undertake other duties, and he has carried out all duties entrusted to him with marked ability, particularly the inspection of meat and other foods. I am grateful to him for his co-operation and loyalty on all occasions; and we both in turn thank the Medical Officer of Health for his encouragement and help which is so willingly given.

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